

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SY-10 CPR-02 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

RSR-01 /097 W

----- 012019

R 211458Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7514

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1974

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, DA

SUBJ: STOLEN AMERICAN FLAG INCIDENT

REF: COPENHAGEN 1955

1. COPENHAGEN CRIMINAL POLICE REPORTED TO EMBASSY OFFICER AUGUST 20 THAT THEIR INVESTIGATION HAD PRODUCED NO FURTHER LEADS. THEY SUSPECT THAT ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALLER MIGHT HAVE BEEN EITHER ACCOMPLICE OR PERPETRATOR OF THE THEFT. THEIR INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT TWO POLICE OFFICERS WHO CAME ON DUTY AT 1500 AUG. 19 (DAY OF THE THEFT) HAD SEEN NO FLAG ON THE POLE AT THAT TIME. THEY DID NOT REPORT THAT FACT AT THE TIME BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED IT NORMAL NOT TO FLY A FLAG ON SUNDAY.
 2. POLICE INVESTIGATOR ASKED IF EMBASSY HAD INVENTORIED ITS STOCK OF FLAGS; EMBASSY OFFICER CONFIRMED THAT ONE FLAG WAS MISSING. INVESTIGATOR WAS SHOWN IDENTICAL FLAG, WITH U.S. GOVT MARKINGS DIFFERENTIATING IT FROM COMMERCIALY-PROCURED FLAG.
 3. EMBASSY OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT DANISHPOLICE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY OUTSIDE OF CHANCERY ANDMARINE SECURITY GUARD RESPONSIB-
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BLE FOR SECURITY INSIDE. HE SUGGESTED THAT DANISH POLICE OFFICERS

PATROL AREA AROUND EMBASSY SEPARATELY RATHER THAN IN PAIRS AS AT PRESENT. THIS SUGGESTION WAS ACCEPTED AND OBSERVATION SHOWS THAT IT IS IN EFFECT TODAY.

4. DAILY TABLOID,B.T; CARRIED EDITORIAL TODAY CIRITICIZING DANISH POLICE FOR ALLOWING FLAG TO BE STOLEN.

5. IN CALL TODAY ON POLITICAL DIRECTOR OLDENBURG AT FOREIGN MINISTRY,
CHARGE SAID HE WAS DISTURBED THAT FLAG COULD BE REMOVED FROM IN FRONT OF CHANCERY WITH TWO DANISH POLICE ON PATROL. THIS THEFT RAISED QUESTION OF ADEQUACY OF DANISH PROTECTIVE MEASURES. OLDENBURG SAID THAT HE WAS GRATEFUL CHARGE HAD RAISED THIS MATTER ORALLY RATHER THAN BY FORMAL NOTE; HE HIMSELF FOUND IT EMBARRASSING AND COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW SUCH AN INCIDENT COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE. AFTER MAKING NOTES, OLDENBURG PROMISED TO PASS ALONG THIS EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION WITH SECURITY PROTECTION AT CHANCERY.
DUNIGAN

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30 JUN 2005

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